

109TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 409

To establish a Federal Youth Development Council to improve the administration and coordination of Federal programs serving youth, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 16, 2005

Mr. COLEMAN (for himself, Mr. DEWINE, and Mr. ALEXANDER) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

A BILL

To establish a Federal Youth Development Council to improve the administration and coordination of Federal programs serving youth, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Federal Youth Coordi-
5 nation Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. ESTABLISHMENT AND MEMBERSHIP.**

7 (a) MEMBERS AND TERMS.—There is established the
8 Federal Youth Development Council (in this Act referred
9 to as the “Council”) composed of—

1 (1) the Attorney General, the Secretary of Agri-
2 culture, the Secretary of Labor, the Secretary of
3 Health and Human Services, Secretary of Housing
4 and Urban Development, the Secretary of Edu-
5 cation, the Secretary of the Interior, the Secretary
6 of Commerce, the Secretary of Defense, the Sec-
7 retary of Homeland Security, the Director of Na-
8 tional Drug Control Policy, the Director of the Of-
9 fice of Management and Budget, the Assistant to
10 the President for Domestic Policy, the Director of
11 the U.S.A. Freedom Corps, the Deputy Assistant to
12 the President and Director of the Office of Faith-
13 Based and Community Initiatives, and the Chief Ex-
14 ecutive Officer of the Corporation for National and
15 Community Service, and other Federal officials as
16 directed by the President, to serve for the life of the
17 Council; and

18 (2) such additional members as the President,
19 in consultation with the majority and minority lead-
20 ership of the House of Representatives and the Sen-
21 ate, shall appoint from among representatives of
22 faith-based organizations, community based organi-
23 zations, child and youth focused foundations, univer-
24 sities, non-profit organizations, youth service pro-
25 viders, State and local government, and youth in dis-

1 advantaged situations, to serve for terms of 2 years
2 and who may be reappointed by the President for a
3 second 2-year term.

4 (b) CHAIRPERSON.—The Chairperson of the Council
5 shall be designated by the President.

6 (c) MEETINGS.—The Council shall meet at the call
7 of the Chairperson, not less frequently than 4 times each
8 year. The first meeting shall be not less than 6 months
9 after the date of enactment of this Act.

10 **SEC. 3. DUTIES OF THE COUNCIL.**

11 The duties of the Council shall be—

12 (1) to ensure communication among agencies
13 administering programs designed to serve youth, es-
14 pecially those in disadvantaged situations;

15 (2) to assess the needs of youth, especially
16 those in disadvantaged situations, and those who
17 work with youth, and the quantity and quality of
18 Federal programs offering services, supports, and
19 opportunities to help youth in their educational, so-
20 cial, emotional, physical, vocational, and civic devel-
21 opment;

22 (3) to set objectives and quantifiable 5-year
23 goals for such programs;

24 (4) to make recommendations for the allocation
25 of resources in support of such goals and objectives;

1 (5) to identify target populations of youth who
 2 are disproportionately at risk and assist agencies in
 3 focusing additional resources on them;

4 (6) to develop a plan, including common indica-
 5 tors of youth well-being, and assist agencies in co-
 6 ordinating to achieve such goals and objectives;

7 (7) to assist Federal agencies, at the request of
 8 one or more such agency, in collaborating on model
 9 programs and demonstration projects focusing on
 10 special populations, including youth in foster care,
 11 migrant youth, projects to promote parental involve-
 12 ment, and projects that work to involve young people
 13 in service programs;

14 (8) to solicit and document ongoing input and
 15 recommendations from—

16 (A) youth, especially those in disadvan-
 17 taged situations, by forming an advisory council
 18 of youth to work with the Council;

19 (B) national youth development experts,
 20 parents, faith and community-based organiza-
 21 tions, foundations, business leaders, youth serv-
 22 ice providers, and teachers;

23 (C) researchers; and

24 (D) State and local government officials;

25 and

1 (9) to work with Federal agencies to conduct
2 high-quality research and evaluation, identify and
3 replicate model programs, and provide technical as-
4 sistance, and, subject to the availability of appro-
5 priations, to fund additional research to fill identi-
6 fied needs.

7 **SEC. 4. ASSISTANCE OF STAFF.**

8 (a) DIRECTOR AND STAFF.—The Chairperson, in
9 consultation with the Council, shall employ and set the
10 rate of pay for a Director and any necessary staff to assist
11 in carrying out its duties.

12 (b) STAFF OF FEDERAL AGENCIES.—Upon request
13 of the Council, the head of any Federal department or
14 agency may detail, on a reimbursable basis, any of the
15 personnel of that department or agency to the Council to
16 assist it in carrying out its duties under this Act.

17 **SEC. 5. POWERS OF THE COUNCIL.**

18 (a) MAILS.—The Council may use the United States
19 mails in the same manner and under the same conditions
20 as other departments and agencies of the United States.

21 (b) ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT SERVICES.—Upon
22 the request of the Council, the Administrator of General
23 Services shall provide to the Council, on a reimbursable
24 basis, the administrative support services necessary for the
25 Council to carry out its responsibilities under this Act.

1 **SEC. 6. ASSISTANCE TO STATES.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to the availability of ap-
 3 propriations, the Council may provide technical assistance
 4 and make grants to States to support State councils for
 5 coordinating State youth efforts.

6 (b) APPLICATIONS.—Applicants for grants must be
 7 States. Applications for grants under this section shall be
 8 submitted at such time and in such form as determined
 9 by the Council.

10 (c) PRIORITY.—Priority for grants will be given to
 11 States that—

12 (1) have already initiated an interagency coordi-
 13 nation effort focused on youth;

14 (2) plan to work with at least 1 locality to sup-
 15 port a local youth council for coordinating local
 16 youth efforts;

17 (3) demonstrate the inclusion of nonprofit orga-
 18 nizations, including faith-based and community-
 19 based organizations, in the work of the State coun-
 20 cil; and

21 (4) demonstrate the inclusion of young people,
 22 especially those in disadvantaged situations, in the
 23 work of the State council.

24 **SEC. 7. REPORT.**

25 Not later than 1 year after the Council holds its first
 26 meeting, and on an annual basis for a period of 4 years

1 thereafter, the Council shall transmit to the President and
2 to Congress a report of the findings and recommendations
3 of the Council. The report shall—

4 (1) include a comprehensive compilation of re-
5 cent research and statistical reporting by various
6 Federal agencies on the overall wellbeing of youth;

7 (2) include the assessment of the needs of
8 youth and those who serve them, the goals and ob-
9 jectives, the target populations of at-risk youth, and
10 the plan called for in section 3;

11 (3) report on the link between quality of service
12 provision, technical assistance and successful youth
13 outcomes and recommend ways to coordinate and
14 improve Federal training and technical assistance,
15 information sharing, and communication among the
16 various programs and agencies serving youth;

17 (4) include recommendations to better integrate
18 and coordinate policies across agencies at the Fed-
19 eral, State, and local levels, including recommenda-
20 tions for legislation and administrative actions;

21 (5) include a summary of actions the Council
22 has taken at the request of Federal agencies to fa-
23 cilitate collaboration and coordination on youth serv-
24 ing programs and the results of those collaborations,
25 if available; and

1 (6) include a summary of the input and rec-
2 ommendations from the groups identified in section
3 3(8).

4 **SEC. 8. TERMINATION.**

5 The Council shall terminate 60 days after transmit-
6 ting its fifth and final report pursuant to section 6.

7 **SEC. 9. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

8 There is authorized to be appropriated for fiscal years
9 2005 through 2009 such sums as may be necessary to
10 carry out this Act.

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